

# Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Fiscal Note**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 21-0018 Date: February 24, 2021 Bill Status: **Prime Sponsors:** Rep. Carver; Tipper House Judiciary Fiscal Analyst: Matt Bishop | 303-866-4796 Sen. Lundeen; Ginal Matt.Bishop@state.co.us SECURITY PROTECTIONS CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL **Bill Topic:** Summary of ☐ State Revenue □ TABOR Refund **Fiscal Impact:** □ State Transfer ☐ Statutory Public Entity This bill changes the class 1 misdemeanor of publishing personal information online to include public safety workers and their immediate family members, and allows the public safety workers and law enforcement officials to ask government officials to remove such information from online records. The bill increases state and local workload on an ongoing basis beginning in FY 2021-22. **Appropriation** No appropriation is required. **Summary: Fiscal Note** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill. Status:

## **Summary of Legislation**

Current law forbids a person from publishing on the internet the personal information of a law enforcement official, human services worker, or their immediate family if the information's dissemination poses an imminent and serious threat. The bill extends this prohibition to include information about a public safety worker, which includes certain employees and contractors of the Department of Corrections. The bill also permits public safety workers and law enforcement officials to request that state or local governments remove personal information from online records.

# **Comparable Crime Analysis**

Legislative Council Staff is required to include certain information in the fiscal note for any bill that creates a new crime, changes the classification of an existing crime, or changes an element of an existing crime. This section outlines data on crimes comparable to the offense in this bill and discusses assumptions on future rates of criminal conviction for those offense.

**Prior conviction data and assumptions.** This bill changes the element of the existing offense of publicly sharing personal information of law enforcement officials and human services workers by also making it an offense to publicly share the personal information of a public safety worker. From 2018 to 2020, zero offenders have been sentenced and convicted for this offense; therefore, the fiscal note assumes that there will continue to be minimal or no additional criminal case filings or convictions for this offense under the bill. Because the bill is not expected to have a tangible impact on criminal justice-related revenue or expenditures at the state or local levels, these potential impacts are not discussed further in this fiscal note.

Visit <u>leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes</u> for more information about criminal justice costs in fiscal notes.

## **State Expenditures**

Beginning in the current FY 2020-21, to the extent that a public safety worker or law enforcement official contacts a state department to remove personal information published online, workload for that department will increase. The fiscal note assumes that these cases will be rare and any increase in workload will be minimal.

## **Local Government**

Beginning in the current FY 2020-21, the bill is expected to increase workload in local governments, should public safety workers or law enforcement officials request that an office remove information from its website.

#### **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Corrections Counties County Assessors
District Attorneys Information Technology Judicial
Municipalities Personnel Public Safety

Sheriffs Special Districts